

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

<b>(1) DEPARTMENT</b> Public Works	<b>(2) MEETING DATE</b> 2/28/2012	<b>(3) CONTACT/PHONE</b> Courtney Howard, Water Resources Engineer (805) 781-1016	
<b>(4) SUBJECT</b> Submittal of a resolution to designate the Director of Public Works as the authorized representative to file an application and execute agreements for an Integrated Regional Water Management Program Planning Grant.			
<b>(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION</b> It is our recommendation that your Honorable Board, acting as the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District), approve a resolution designating the Director of Public Works as the Authorized Representative to both file an Integrated Regional Water Management Program Planning Grant Application and execute associated grant agreements with the California Department of Water Resources.			
<b>(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S)</b> Flood Control General Fund (1300000000)	<b>(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT</b> N/A	<b>(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT</b> N/A	<b>(9) BUDGETED?</b> Yes
<b>(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. 120 min.)			
<b>(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		<b>(12) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED?</b> BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<b>(13) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR)</b> N/A		<b>(14) W-9</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<b>(15) LOCATION MAP</b> N/A	<b>(16) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT?</b> No	<b>(17) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date 12/7/10, A-15	
<b>(18) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW</b> Emily Jackson			
<b>(19) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S)</b> All Districts -			

Reference:    12FEB28-BB-3

## County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Public Works

Courtney Howard, Water Resources Engineer

VIA: Dean Benedix, Utilities Division Manager

DATE: 2/28/2012

SUBJECT: Submittal of a resolution to designate the Director of Public Works as the authorized representative to file an application and execute agreements for an Integrated Regional Water Management Program Planning Grant.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is our recommendation that your Honorable Board, acting as the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District), approve a resolution designating the Director of Public Works as the Authorized Representative to both file an Integrated Regional Water Management Program Planning Grant Application and execute associated grant agreements with the California Department of Water Resources.

### **DISCUSSION**

#### ***Integrated Regional Water Management Background***

Senate Bill 1672 established the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Act in 2002, intended to promote collaborative, integrated management of water resources. California voters passed the propositions listed in Table 1, below, thereby establishing and funding efforts under the State's IRWM Program.

Proposition 50 established the State's IRWM Program and authorized the Legislature to appropriate grant funds for IRWM plans and projects. Proposition 84 authorized the Legislature to appropriate funds for IRWM implementation and planning grants and established certain additional and modified requirements for eligibility. Proposition 1E authorized the Legislature to appropriate funds for IRWM stormwater flood grants and established certain additional modified requirements for eligibility.

**Table 1. Legislative Acts Establishing IRWM Program.**

Date	Proposition	Act	Associated Value
2002	50	Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act	\$380 million
2006	84	Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act	\$1 billion
2006	1E	Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention Bond Act	\$300 million

The intent of the IRWM Program is to encourage collaborative “integrated regional strategies” for water resource management, including projects that protect communities from drought and floods, protect and improve water quality and ecosystems, and address critical water supply or quality needs of disadvantaged communities. The IRWM Program is intended to promote a new model for water management, consistent with the California Water Plan. The IRWM Program, including the planning and implementation grant programs is administered by the State’s Department of Water Resources (DWR). Planning grants are for updating existing IRWM Plans to meet the requirements of IRWM Program Guidelines. Implementation grants are reserved for actual construction projects or implementation of programs that meet the requirements of the State’s IRWM Guidelines.

The District, in coordination with the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC), has been acting as the Regional Agency responsible for development and implementation of the San Luis Obispo County Region’s (SLOCo Region’s) IRWM Plan (Plan). The Plan was initially developed and adopted by multiple agencies in the County in 2005, was updated in 2007 in accordance with the 5-year update schedule included in the adopted 2005 Plan, and has been accepted by DWR as the SLOCo Region’s Plan.

### ***Requirements for Eligibility under Proposition 84***

One key change under Proposition 84 for the IRWM Program included the requirement to form a Regional Water Management Group (RWMG)<sup>1</sup> that is responsible for development and implementation of the Region’s Plan rather than one Regional Agency. In 2009, the District worked with the WRAC to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining the governance structure for a RWMG that would develop and implement the Plan. This MOU (Attachment 1 of the Resolution) was supported by the WRAC during their February 4, 2009 meeting, signed twice by your Board, acting as the District and acting as the County, on April 21, 2009, and has been signed by the WRAC member agencies listed in Attachment 2 of the Resolution. These signatories form the Region’s RWMG. Staff continues to coordinate with the RWMG and the WRAC with the goal of ultimately having every agency that is eligible in the Region join the RWMG.

The MOU establishes the District as the lead agency, responsible for submitting grant applications under the IRWM Program. The attached Resolution authorizes the Public Works Director to submit the Round 2 IRWM planning grant application and enter into related IRWM Program grant agreements with DWR on behalf of the District.

On December 7, 2010, your Board authorized the Director of Public Works to file an IRWM implementation grant application under Proposition 84, and to sign a consent form that would commit the District to updating the IRWM Plan if awarded grant funding. On August 16, 2011, DWR announced its final funding recommendations, including \$10.4 million allocated to the SLOCo Region. This implementation grant will fund efforts associated with the Los Osos Community Wastewater Project, District Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Program, and the Nipomo Supplemental Water (Waterline Intertie) Project. One requirement of receiving this funding is that the SLOCo Region must update its IRWM Plan within two years of executing a grant agreement with DWR.

### ***Round 2 Planning Grant Funding and Requirements***

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<sup>1</sup> An RWMG is a group of three or more agencies, at least two of which have a statutory authority over water supply or water management, as well as those persons who may be necessary for the development and implementation of an IRWM Plan that meets the requirements in California Water Code Sections 10540 and 10541.

Of the \$1 Billion authorized under Proposition 84, approximately \$9 million will be allocated during Round 2 of the planning grant funding. DWR, via the 2012 IRWM Planning Proposal Solicitation Package, has announced the eligibility status by region for Round 2 IRWM Regional Planning Grants (see Exhibit "A"). SLOCo Region is eligible for \$1,000,000 (not guaranteed), as it did not apply for or receive Round 1 IRWM planning grant funding. The application includes updating the IRWM Plan and conducting several planning studies that were identified by the SLOCo Region as priority studies to enhance the plan and/or fill data gaps to better meet current DWR IRWM standards. District staff, with concurrence from the WRAC during their February 1, 2012 meeting, is recommending submittal of a Round 2 IRWM planning grant application for the studies summarized in Exhibit "B". This planning grant application includes three main planning study categories that include efforts by a multitude of regional stakeholders:

- General IRWM Plan Update;
- Salt and Nutrient Management/ Reuse/Recycled Water Management Planning; and
- Watershed Management Planning.

These planning efforts will improve the SLOCo Region's IRWM Plan, as well as help regional stakeholders better understand local water resources and potential management strategies.

### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

The RWMG members participate in IRWM work efforts via presentations to the WRAC and utilize WRAC recommendations on these efforts in accordance with sections 5.4.4 and 5.5 of the MOU. DWR and the Regional Water Quality Control Board are notified of all WRAC meetings, and, consequently, IRWM efforts. The State agency responsible for reviewing the Region's IRWM Plan and grant applications is DWR.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to legal form and effect.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Development of the SLOCo Region's Round 2 grant application is being funded through the approved Fiscal Year 2011-12 Flood Control and Water Conservation District Budget.

The language contained in the attached Resolution is dictated by the State; consequently it authorizes the Director to not only apply for the grant, but also to "execute a grant agreement with California Department of Water Resources". No grant agreement can be executed unless the budget for that item has been previously approved by the Board of Supervisors. Therefore, should a grant be offered by the State, the Director would, prior to signing any grant agreements, bring the budget for the item before the Board of Supervisors.

Funding for ongoing IRWM efforts, including updates to the IRWM Plan, is requested via the annual budgeting process. The Round 2 IRWM planning grant application will supplement funding necessary to comply with the District's commitment to update the SLOCo Region's IRWM Plan under the IRWM implementation grant funding received.

### **RESULTS**

Authorizing the Public Works Director of San Luis Obispo County to be the representative to file applications and enter into grant agreements with the California Department of Water Resources for grants allows the SLOCo Region to seek funding for high priority water resources planning efforts identified by the RWMG. Therefore, approving the resolution will contribute to a safe, healthy, livable, prosperous and well-governed community.

File: Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Prop 84 Planning

Reference: 12FEB28-BB-3

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#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution Designating the Director of Public Works as the Authorized Representative to File Applications and Execute Agreements for Integrated Regional Water Management Program Grants
2. Exhibit A - Round 2 IRWM Regional Planning Grant Eligibility
3. Exhibit B - Round 2 Funding Area Allocations